

BOX PCT  
IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE  
OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY--CHAPTER II

APPLICANT(S): Jürgen NIESSEN et al  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: P01,0182  
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/EP99/09497  
INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: 04 DECEMBER 1999  
INVENTION: METHOD OF MONITORING FOR AVAILABILITY OF  
A SYSTEM FUNCTION IN A COMPUTER SYSTEM

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

According to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.98, Applicant respectfully requests that a citation and examination of the references identified on the attached PTO 1449 form be made during the course of examination of the above-identified application for United States Patent.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed according to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) and before the latter occurrence of:

- (1) three months from the filing date of a national application;
- (2) three months from the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.491 in an international application; or
- (3) the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

**REMARKS**

The attached PTO 1449 form lists the related art reference for the above identified application which was identified in the International Search Report, a copy of which is enclosed herewith.

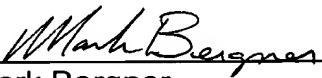
### EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

Reference AJ was identified in the International Search Report. This reference is in English, so no further commentary on its teaching is required.

The filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in the present Information Disclosure Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(b).

The above citation of related art is not a representation that such art constitutes a complete or exhaustive listing of all pertinent prior art, nor that it necessarily includes the closest or most relevant art. The aforementioned citation comprises a voluntary citation of prior art of which applicant and his attorney are presently aware and is not intended to serve as a substitute for the Examiners own search.

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